

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. (Previously Presented) A powder dispenser device for dispensing powder from a filler vessel to an unfilled vessel, the device including:

a dispenser device body having an inlet end and an outlet end;

a transport passage between the inlet end and the outlet end, the transport passage having an inner wall including a tapered portion tapering outwardly from a direction of the inlet end toward the outlet end, wherein a cross-sectional internal dimension at the inlet end of the transport passage is smaller than a cross-sectional internal dimension at the outlet end of the transport passage; and

at least two sealing connector sections, located on an inner surface of the dispenser device body proximate to the inlet end, and on an outer surface of the dispenser device body proximate to the outlet end, respectively, for sealingly connecting the device with a filler vessel and an unfilled vessel, thereby forming a substantially airtight seal, so that air within the unfilled vessel is displaced by powder from the filler vessel and passes through the transport passage during a filling operation.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein at least one of the sealing connector sections is in the form of threaded portions, foam or rubber strips, light friction fits, or flat or contoured plates which correspond to a connector surface of an unfilled vessel.

4. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein the transport passage includes rounded shoulders at its inlet end.

5. (Previously Presented) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein the inner wall of the transport passage is a continuous generally smooth tapered configuration, tapering outwardly from the inlet end towards the outlet end.

6. (Previously Presented) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein a contour formed by an inner wall of the transport passage differs from the contour formed by an exterior wall of the transport passage.

7. (Previously Presented) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein an exterior wall of the transport passage is shaped to correspond to an inlet or access portion of any one of a plurality of unfilled vessels having access or inlet portions of differing diameters or shapes, the exterior wall thereby incorporating the sealable connector section.

8. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 7 wherein the exterior wall is tapered outwardly as the longitudinal direction is traversed from the outlet end to the inlet end.

9. (Previously Presented) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein the dispenser device body is constructed from suitable plastics, machinable or mouldable, or from suitable metals or metal alloys.

10. (Previously Presented) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein the device is constructed from more than one part or one or more materials.

11. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein an adaptor is provided to seal an inlet or access portion of an unfilled vessel.

12. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 11 wherein the adaptor is in the form of a plate, having inlet and outlet sealable portions, to seal with the inlet or access portion of an unfilled vessel, and the outlet end of the dispenser body.

13. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 12 wherein the plate is contoured or flat to conform with at least portions of the unfilled vessel.

14. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein a locating means is provided to locate with a retaining portion on the unfilled vessel.

15. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 14 wherein the locating means is in the form of one or more projections mounted on the external periphery of the dispenser device.

16. (Withdrawn) A dispenser device according to claim 15 wherein clips are used to locate with the retaining means to retain the device against the unfilled vessel.

17. (Canceled)

18. (New) A dispenser device according to claim 1 wherein the transport passage is substantially free of restrictions in cross-sectional area between said inlet end and said outlet end.